

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT(S):	Prentice	CONFIRMATION NO.:	2604
SERIAL NO.:	10/598,313	ART UNIT:	1797
FILING DATE:	June 25, 2008	EXAMINER:	Therkorn, Ernest G.
TITLE:	A Device for Holding a Column or Cartridge...		

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO REQUIREMENT OF RESTRICTION

Sir:

In response to the Office action mailed from the U.S. Patent Office on May 18, 2010, Applicants submit this Response. Applicants petition for a three-month extension of time for response until September 18, 2010, and the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the appropriate fee to Deposit Account No. 23-0503. Applicants believe that no additional fees are due, but the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional required fees to Deposit Account No. 23-0503.

Claims 1-19, of which claims 1 and 11 are independent, are pending in the application.

Election of Invention

The Office action requires election of a single one of two identified inventions associated with the following groups of claims: Group I, claims 1-10, drawn to a device; and Group 2, claims 11-19, drawn to a method of minimizing band spreading. Applicants elect, with traverse, Group I, drawn to claims 1-10.

Election of Species, I

The Office action requires election of a single one of identified species associated with positioning means, such as an arm, a slide, interfitting slide elements, flexible conduit elements, and a hinge, which are all considered by the Examiner to be distinct. Applicants elect, with

traverse, the species associated with a hinge. It appears that claims 1-5, 8 and 10 are readable on the hinge species.

Election of Species, II

The Office action requires election of a single one of identified species associated with a pump, sampler injector, or a combined module of a pump and sample injector, which are all considered by the Examiner to be distinct. Applicants elect, with traverse, the species associated with a pump. It appears that claims 1-10 are readable on the pump species.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: August 20, 2010

Reg. No.: 45,054

Tel. No.: (508) 482-3869

Fax No.: (508) 482-2320

/Jamie H. Rose/

Jamie H. Rose
Attorney for Applicants